GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:979
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
INCREASE IN PRICES OF VEGETABLES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a steep rise in prices of vegetables in the country, especially in Delhi during the past six months; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to check the rising prices of vegetables?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Weekly Wholesale Modal Prices of major vegetables namely onion, tomato and potato at the all-India level during last six months of 2007 in Rupees per quintal are given below:

Weekly Wholesale Modal Price of Major Vegetables during last six months of 2007

(Rs. per quintal)

Month	Week	Onion	Tomato	Potato
February 2007	1st	1251	749	482
	2nd	1166	584	455
	3rd	1068	600	535
	4th	797	673	549
March 2007	1st	841	560	582
	2nd	830	503	641
	3rd	776	476	642
	4th	711	527	607
April 2007	1st	713	419	615
	2nd	653	433	729
	3rd	594	458	720
	4th	585	447	741
May 2007	1st	649	464	752
	2nd	655	496	736
	3rd	604	571	830
	4th	671	621	770
June 2007	1st	781	788	834
	2nd	855	823	831
	3rd	939	1067	876
	4th	971	1418	909
July 2007	1st	989	1598	885
	2nd	987	1070	918
	3rd	1054	1003	933
	4th	980	1066	902
August,2007	1st	940	1124	997

It may be seen from above that prices of onion was Rs. 1251/- per quintal in the first week of February, 2007 and stood at Rs. 940/- per quintal (latest available) in the first week of August, 2007. During the same period prices of tomato and potato have increased from Rs. 749/- to 1124/- per quintal and Rs. 482/- to 997/- per quintal respectively. However, there were intermittent fluctuations depending on the availability.

In Delhi, prices of onion have reduced from Rs.1300/- per quintal in first week of February to Rs. 1100/- per quintal in the first week of August. However, prices of tomato during the same period increased from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 1500/- per quintal and for potato from Rs. 450/- to Rs. 1100/- per quintal.

(b): Lower market arrivals, lean production season and higher demand are some of the reasons for recent rise in prices of vegetables. The prices and market arrivals of vegetables are regularly monitored.